

# JESUS LOVES HIS SHEEP

## VISUAL AIDS

- > Pictures of sheep, shepherds.
- > Sheep shape cut-outs.

## WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

*Say/sing together:*

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the good shepherd, says Jesus.  
I know my sheep and  
they know me.  
Alleluia!**

A reading from the Good News  
given to us by John.  
**Glory to you, Lord.**

Jesus says,  
'I am the good shepherd.  
I know my sheep and they know me.  
They follow me  
because they know my voice.  
The shepherd comes in to the  
sheepfold by the gate,  
but the thief who comes to kill and

## DISCUSSION

Encourage the children to describe in  
their own words what Jesus says  
about caring for sheep.

Jesus wants us to follow him, like  
sheep follow the shepherd. Have the  
children give examples of following  
Jesus.

Some people follow Jesus by  
becoming priests, sisters,  
missionaries.

## SHARING

Encourage the children to share  
what they know about sheep and  
shepherds.  
A good shepherd knows each of his  
sheep by name.

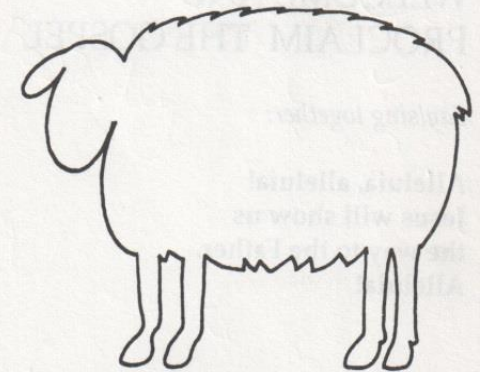
Have the children talk about how  
they got their names: who chose  
them?

Have the children say who has called  
them by name in the past week, and  
why.

Today's Gospel story is about a  
special shepherd and special sheep.

destroy  
sneaks in through a hole in the wall.  
If a wolf attacks my sheep,  
I will not run away and leave them.  
I love my sheep,  
and I will protect them with my life.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



## ACTIVITIES

- > Give out the cut-out shapes and  
have the children write or draw  
how they will respond when their  
name is called in the week ahead,  
e.g. at bed-time, at meals, etc.
- > Game:
  - form a circle;
  - choose one child to be Jesus;
  - three or four to be thieves outside  
the circle; two to be the gateway;
  - some children to be sheep within

- the circle; the rest form the circle;
- Jesus and the 'thieves' take turns  
to call 'sheep' from the circle by  
name. The 'sheep' have to listen  
carefully and only leave when  
'Jesus' calls.
- > Recite this prayer together:  
**Lord Jesus, our loving shepherd,  
help us to hear you always  
and to say 'yes'  
when you call our names.**